

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott News

Parish Council & Village News – December 2023 & January 2024

Street Lamp 22, adjacent to *The Cottage*, Chelveston and 1 Water Lane, is still waiting for Telent (Openreach's contractor) to sort out a date with National Grid to make safe and temporarily remove the power cable before they can replace the rotting BT pole.

This ongoing saga has been going to happen at various dates since April. At the time of printing, Telent have been unable to provide a new date.

Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs). Originally purchased as battery powered, the effort involved in safely swapping the battery packs has prompted the Council to look at alternative power sources.

The Council has received the costs from the supplier to convert two of the SIDs to solar and one to mains transformer, but it has been identified that the existing 75mm diameter posts are too small to safely support the solar arrays. Accordingly, Northants Highways has been asked to quote to replace these with larger diameter posts.

Allotment shed replacement: The first four allotment sheds (the ones in worst condition) have been replaced by a local handyman, Alistair Mead. This was fully funded by a grant from the Foulger Trust, so no cost to the local council tax payers.

A grant application has been submitted to the NNC Community Support Fund (funded by the Government's Shared Prosperity Fund) for the replacement of the remaining 12 sheds.

School House update: In the last parish newsletter we explained the reason for the scaffolding on *School House* next to the Village Hall. One of the chimneys was in danger of collapse and needed urgent repairs. *School House* is owned by one of the Village's oldest charities. The rental income from the property helps maintain the Village Hall as a community venue.

As a gateway property to the Village and also an important heritage asset, it is important that the Trustees maintain *School House* in good order for the benefit of future generations of villagers.

Michael Farrow has now completed the restoration of the gable end chimney, removing the concrete render poorly installed in 1984 and restoring the chimney to its original design from 1864. The result is a triumph of craftsmanship and design, which should last for another century at least.

Many residents have commented favourably on the improvements and are now asking when the other chimney will get the same treatment. As always that depends on the funds available

(by Adrian Dale, Clerk to the Trustees).

Defibrillator updates: The defibrillator located at *Poplar Farm Barns*, Caldecott, was activated in response to a 999 call in September. This was the first deployment of one of our defibrillators.

Because we still have issues with parking in front of the defibrillator at *Star & Garter*, the Council (with the agreement of the brewery) is installing a heritage style self-watering planter in front of it. This has been kindly funded by the Windfarm Trust.

At Chelston Rise, we are still waiting on the developer, who is funding the National Grid connection to the former bus shelter. (NB. The defibrillator doesn't require mains power, but the heated storage cabinet does).

New access to the Chelveston Energy Innovation Park (CEIP): The owners applied in early 2022 for a new site access and gatehouse which would be much closer to Chelston Rise. The Council objected to the original application as no noise survey had been submitted.

The noise survey was finally submitted in June 2023 and whilst it concluded no determinantal impact to the houses backing onto the CEIP site, the Council requested a planning condition for noise monitoring (i.e. if the noise at the first floor bedrooms exceeded that predicted by the survey, additional mitigation measures would be required).

The NNC planning officer sought to dismiss the conditions in the NNC Planning Committee report, so Cllr Andy Cuthbert attended the meeting at Wellingborough to speak for the Parish Council on behalf of the residents. As a result, whilst the new access has been consented, the noise monitoring condition has been re-instated.

A 20 mph zone? A Chelveston resident has asked the Council to apply to NNC for an Order creating a 20 mph zone within the centre of Chelveston. The Council has previously asked for a pedestrian crossing point over the B645 at *Cornerhouse Cottages*, but this was rejected due to road safety technical issues. Lowering the speed to 20 mph is another way to facilitate safer crossing.

If the Council agrees at its December meeting, the electorate will be canvassed for their views (for or against), so that any application for an Order is supported by local consent.

Next Issue: The February & March issue of the Newsletter should be delivered in the first week of February, so if you want to publicise a parish event, please let me know before the end of January.

The Councillors and Clerk would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Events – December 2023 & January 2024

The Parish Church of St. John the Baptist (contact Arthur Wright - 624530).

There is a communion service **every Sunday morning at 9.00am.**

We have planted three trees along the south wall of the churchyard to replace the old chestnut trees blown down by the wind. It was decided to have two copper beeches and one oak tree rather than chestnuts and we are grateful to the church members who undertook the planting following the tree nursery's instructions and ensured they were securely staked. We hope they will mature well for future generations to enjoy.

We are also most grateful to the Foulger Trust for enabling new speakers to be purchased for the new sound system, and also to the Windfarm Trust for enabling the system to include digital enhancement.

The church was full for the funeral of Muriel Palmer who was buried in her late husband Geoff's grave on 20th November. He had been a churchwarden and both he and Muriel had been active and valued members of the church for over thirty years since moving here and supported all events and fundraising activities.

Arthur Wright & Andrew Wager, Churchwardens



Christmas services at St John's

Carol Service on **Sunday 17th December** at **3pm.**

Carols around the Crib on **Christmas Eve** at **12 noon.** *Nativity costumes and Christmas sweaters are encouraged!*

Christmas Celebration Eucharist on **Christmas Day** at **9am.**



The Events Team programme of activities (TEXT Carol on 07880 556286).

The Events Team will be decorating **The Green** later this month. The bulk of the decorations - apart from the lights - are made from repurposed materials, and many of the preloved baubles were purchased from St John's Christmas Fair!

We will be holding another **Fish'n'Chip quiz** on **9th February 2024** at St Johns Church

As always, we are open to suggestions for future events and if anyone is interested in joining the team, please contact Carol on 07880-556286



The **Chelveston-cum-Caldecott WI** meets on the second Wednesday of the month at **7.30pm** in the Village Hall. We are holding an **Open Meeting** on **Wednesday 10th January 2024.** Please come along to enjoy our speaker, wine and nibbles and find out what we are all about.

Please contact Kate on 07835 469410 for further information.

Our February meeting is on **Wednesday 14th February 2024**



The Parish Council usually meets on the second Monday of the month at **7.30pm.** Members of the public are welcome to attend and may speak on any agenda item at the Chair's discretion.

Note that the December meeting will start later at 7.45pm

The agenda and meeting papers are posted on the website (www.chelveston-pc.gov.uk) and the agenda is on the parish noticeboards at least 3 clear days before the meetings.

Parish Council Members & Officers

Chair: Andrew Seaman, Rosemoor, Raunds Rd.

Vice: Jennifer Harwood, 7 Britten Close.

Andy Cuthbert, 38 The Crescent, Chelston Rise.

Clinton Hill, 52 The Crescent, Chelston Rise.

Carol Parsons, 5 Pokas Cottages.

Peter Smith, 2 Bidwell Lane, Caldecott

Claire Warsop, Manorfields, Caldecott

Clerk: Mark Hunter, Ashbury, Caldecott (626039).

E-mails to the Council on clerk@chelveston-pc.gov.uk